**Period 4: 1800-1848 Part I**

**Key Concepts**

**4.1 The United States developed the world’s first modern mass democracy and celebrated a new national culture, while Americans sought to define the nation’s democratic ideals and to reform its institutions to match them.**

* **The nation’s transformation to a more participatory democracy was accompanied by continued debates over federal power, the relationship between the federal government and the states, the authority of different branches of the federal government, and the rights and responsibilities of individual citizens.**
* **While Americans celebrated their nation’s progress toward a unified new national culture that blended Old World forms with New World ideas, various groups of the nation’s inhabitants developed distinctive cultures of their own.**

**4.2 Developments in technology, agriculture, and commerce precipitated profound changes in U.S. settlement patterns, regional identities, gender and family relations, political power, and distribution of consumer goods.**

* **Regional economic specialization, especially the demands of cultivating southern cotton, shaped settlement patterns and the national and international economy.**
* **The economic changes caused by the market revolution had significant effects on migration patterns, gender and family relations, and the distribution of political power.**

**4.3 U.S. interest in increasing foreign trade, expanding its national borders, and isolating itself from European conflicts shaped the nation’s foreign policy and spurred government and private initiatives.**

* **Struggling to create an independent global presence, U.S. policymakers south to dominate the North American continent and to promote its foreign trade.**
* **Various American groups and Individuals initiated, championed, and/or resisted the expansion of territory and/or government powers.**
* **The American acquisition of lands in the West gave rise to a contest over the extension of slavery into the western territories as well as a series of attempts at national compromise.**

**In a Nutshell**

* A period of strong nationalism emerged in 1815 after the end of a second war with Great Britain.
* The Age of Jackson (1824-40) was marked by a new system of party politics, numerous political changes, and a variety of social reform movements.
* The U.S. expanded its territory greatly in the first half of the 19th century.

**Essential Information**

**A. What happened in the election of 1800?**

After a tie in the Electoral College, Thomas Jefferson was elected by the House of Representatives to be the third president of the United States. Jefferson’s election established an important precedent with the peaceful transition of power from Federalists to Democratic-Republicans.

**B. Who was John Marshall?**

As chief justice from 1801 to 1835, John Marshall handed down decisions that strengthened the federal

government and the power of the Supreme Court. Marshall’s decisions strongly supported private property and helped establish the American free market system.

**C. How did the United States gain Louisiana?**

President Jefferson, compromising his principle of following a strict interpretation of the Constitution, purchased Louisiana from France. This purchase doubled the size of the nation and gave the U.S. full control of the Mississippi River.

**D. Why did the United States go to war in 1812?**

In 1810 a new generation of political leaders, known as War Hawks, were elected to Congress. These new leaders pressured President Madison to go to war with England. The causes of the War of 1812 included England’s violation of freedom of the seas, the problems Americans had with Indians in the Northwest, and the desire to annex Canada. The war ended with a treaty that restored conditions as they were before the war.

**E. What was the Era of Good Feelings?**

The Era of Good Feelings was a period following the War of 1812 that was characterized by strong nationalism and only one major political party.

**F. What was the American System?**

During the Era of Good Feelings, Henry Clay introduced the American System, a proposal to make the U.S. economically self-sufficient. His plan included a Second Bank of the United States, protective tariffs, and internal improvements at federal expense.

**G. What were the most important issues during James Monroe’s presidency?**

While James Monroe was president the United States obtained Florida from Spain and issued a unilateral

statement, known as the Monroe Doctrine, declaring the U.S. would not allow European colonization or

interference in Latin America.

**H. Who won the election of 1824?**

Although Andrew Jackson won the most popular votes and the most electoral votes in 1824, he did not have a majority of the electoral votes. John Quincy Adams was elected president in the House of Representatives.

**I. How did the election of 1824 bring the Era of Good Feelings to an end?**

Jackson’s supporters charged that Adams’ election was a “corrupt bargain” in which Henry Clay was made secretary of state in return for giving his support to Adams. This election therefore ended the Era of Good Feelings and brought about two new political parties. Supporters of Jackson called themselves Democrats. Supporters of Adams and Clay called themselves Whigs.

**J. What was Jacksonian Democracy?**

The term “Jacksonian Democracy” refers to the general extension of democracy that characterized U.S. politics from 1824 to 1828. The support for Jacksonian Democracy came primarily from the lower classes in the form of a rebellion against aristocracy. Although Jacksonian Democracy stressed equality, it was also pro-slavery and anti-Indian.

**K. What political changes were made during the Age of Jackson, 1824-1848?**

Political changes during the Age of Jackson included allowing common men to have a voice in choosing the Electoral College, the adoption of the spoils system at the national level, and the beginning of national nominating conventions.

**L. How did Jackson expand the powers of the presidency?**

Andrew Jackson assumed more power for the presidency by using the veto extensively and by defying Supreme Court orders. Jackson justified these actions on the grounds that the presidency was the only office representing all the people.

**M. What was Jackson’s policy toward American Indians?**

Jackson adopted a policy of “removal” in regard to American Indians. Believing that Indian land must be open to economic development, the government forced Indians to move west of the Mississippi River.

**N. How did Jackson destroy the Bank of the United States?**

Congress voted to recharter the Second Bank of the United States in 1832. President Jackson, however, disliked the Bank of the United States and vetoed the Recharter Bill. He then destroyed the bank in 1833 by withdrawing government funds and placing them in state banks or, as some people called them, “pet” banks. This action led to a runaway inflation that Jackson ended by issuing a Specie Circular. The issuing of the Specie Circular led to the Panic of 1837.

**O. Who succeeded Andrew Jackson as president?**

In 1836 Martin Van Buren, a Democrat, was hand-picked by Jackson to succeed Jackson as president. Van Buren was later blamed for the Panic of 1837 and was not reelected. In 1840 William Henry Harrison, a Whig, was elected president with John Tyler as vice president. The 1840 election was characterized by both political parties actively seeking votes in a way that is often referred to as the first “modern” election. Harrison died after only one month in office, making Tyler the first vice-president elevated to the presidency after the death of a president.

**P. How did the election of 1844 change the United States?**

In 1844 James K. Polk, a Democrat, was elected on an expansionist platform calling for the “re-annexation” of Texas and the “re-occupation” of Oregon. During Polk’s presidency the U.S. annexed an independent Texas. In a treaty with Great Britain the U.S. annexed the Oregon territory. President Polk also annexed land after a war with Mexico. The Mexican-American War began in 1846 when General Zachary Taylor clashed with Mexican troops near the Rio Grande. The war ended in 1848 with the U.S. gaining land from the Mexican Cession for $15 million.

**Important Events**

1. Revolution of 1800

2. midnight judges, 1801

3. *Marbury v. Madison*, 1803

4. Louisiana Purchase, 1803

5. Lewis and Clark expedition, 1804-06

6. Jefferson’s Embargo, 1807

7. War Hawks elected to Congress, 1810

8. Battle of Tippecanoe, 1811

9. War of 1812, 1812-15

10. Hartford Convention, 1814

11. Treaty of Ghent, 1814

12. Battle of New Orleans, 1815

13. The American System, 1815

14. War of 1812, 1812-15

15. Hartford Convention, 1814

16. Treaty of Ghent, 1814

17. Battle of New Orleans, 1815

18. The American System, 1815

19. Tariff of Abominations, 1828

20. Indian Removal Act, 1830

21. Maysville Road veto, 1830

22. Joseph Smith establishes the Mormon Church, 1830

23. South Carolina nullification crisis, 1832-33

24. *Worcester v. Georgia*, 1832

25. Recharter Bill vetoed, 1832

26. Jackson withdraws BUS funds, 1833

28. Panic of 1837

29. Trail of Tears, 1838

30. Independent Treasury System, 1840

31. First “modern” election, 1840

32. Texas annexed, 1845

**Important People**

33. Thomas Jefferson

34. John Adams

35. James Madison

36. James Monroe

37. John Jay

38. Alexander Hamilton

39. Aaron Burr

40. John Marshall

41. Sacajawea

42. Henry Clay

44. William Henry Harrison

45. Tecumseh

46. Andrew Jackson

47. John Quincy Adams

48. Andrew Jackson

49. Martin Van Buren

50. William Henry Harrison

51. Nicholas Biddle

52. Henry Clay

**Additional Information**

53. excise tax

54. tariff

55. loose versus strict interpretation

56. Federalists

57. Democratic-Republicans

58. Twelfth Amendment

59. impressment

60. protective tariff

62. internal improvements

63. Virginia Dynasty

64. corrupt bargain

65. Democratic Party

66. Whig Party

67. spoils system

68. hard money

69. cheap money

70. pet banks

71. Specie Circular

72. “Tippecanoe and Tyler Too”

73. manifest destiny